



**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**DEPARTMENT OF  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY**

D.T.E. 05-89

Petition of Cambridge Electric Light Company and Commonwealth Electric Company requesting approval of their 2005 Transition Cost Reconciliation Filing, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §1A(a) and 220 C.M.R. § 11.03 (4)(e).

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FOR: COMMONWEALTH ELECTRIC COMPANY and  
CAMBRIDGE ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY  
Petitioners

## I. INTRODUCTION

On December 2, 2005, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 1A(a) and 220 C.M.R. § 11.03(4)(e), Cambridge Electric Light Company (“Cambridge”) and Commonwealth Electric Company (“Commonwealth”) (collectively, “the Companies”) filed with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy (“Department”) their 2005 reconciliation filing, which consists of the reconciliation of transition, transmission, standard offer service and default service costs and revenues, and proposed updated charges and tariffs to be effective January 1, 2006. The Department docketed this filing as D.T.E. 05-89.<sup>1</sup>

On December 8, 2005, the Department issued a notice and a request for comments on the Companies’ filing. Comments were filed by: Constellation NewEnergy, Inc. and Constellation Energy Commodities Group, Inc. (together, “Constellation”); The Energy Consortium (“TEC”); the City of Cambridge (“Cambridge”); the Cape Light Compact (“Cape Light”); and the Attorney General of the Commonwealth (“Attorney General”).<sup>2</sup>

## II. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED TARIFFS

According to the Companies, the rate adjustments affect their transition, transmission, standard offer service, and default service adjustment charges. For 2006, the Companies

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<sup>1</sup> On December 29, 2004, the Department approved the Companies’ 2004 reconciliation filing, subject to further investigation and reconciliation. Cambridge Electric Light Company/Commonwealth Electric Company, D.T.E. 04-114 (2004). The Department subsequently approved a settlement of all issues other than the transmission reconciliation. Cambridge Electric Light Company/Commonwealth Electric Company, D.T.E. 03-118/04-114 (2005).

<sup>2</sup> On December 20, 2005, the Attorney General also filed a Notice of Intervention pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E.

propose the following: (1) an average transition charge of \$0.01723 per kilowatthour (“KWH”) for Cambridge and \$0.02532 per KWH for Commonwealth; (2) an average transmission charge of \$0.02527 per KWH for Cambridge and \$0.00673 per KWH for Commonwealth; and (3) a default service adjustment factor of \$0.00245 per KWH for Cambridge and \$0.00506 per KWH for Commonwealth (Companies Filing at 1). The Companies assert that these proposed rates were calculated in substantially the same manner used in their 2004 reconciliation filing docketed as D.T.E. 04-114 (id. at 2).

### III. COMMENTS

TEC and Cambridge raise the issue of rate continuity, citing that the proposed transition charge is 450 percent greater than the current charge (TEC Comments at 1; Cambridge Comments at 1). Cape Light and Constellation contend that the Default Service Adjustment charge should not be collected from all customers, but rather only those who receive default service (Cape Light Comments at 3-6; Constellation Comments at 2-5). The Attorney General requests that the Department open a formal investigation as it has for all of the Companies’ previous filings (Attorney General Comments at 2).

### IV. ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

Based upon its review of the Companies’ filing, the Department has determined that further investigation is necessary. The tariffs filed for approval in this proceeding are addressed in NSTAR Settlement, D.T.E. 05-85. The Department finds, however, that the rates

filed by the Companies are in compliance with Department precedent<sup>3</sup> and G.L. c. 164, § 1B(b). Consequently, the transition, transmission and default service adjustment rate changes are allowed, subject to reconciliation pursuant to the Department's ongoing investigation and the directives of D.T.E. 05-85.

V. ORDER

After review and consideration, it is

ORDERED: That the tariffs filed by Commonwealth Electric Company with the Department on December 2, 2005, M.D.T.E. Nos. 302D, 304D, 320E through and including 325E, 330E through and including 336E, 340E, and 341F, for service on and after January 1, 2006 are DENIED; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED: That the tariffs filed by Cambridge Electric Light Company with the Department on December 2, 2005, M.D.T.E. Nos. 202D, 204D, 220F through and including 225F, and 230F through and including 236F, 237F through and including 238F, 239E, 240F, and 241E for service on and after January 1, 2006 are DENIED; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED: That the rate changes for Commonwealth Electric Company and Cambridge Electric Light Company are ALLOWED subject to reconciliation pursuant to the Department's investigation and the directives of D.T.E. 05-85; and it is

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<sup>3</sup> Cambridge Electric Light Company/Commonwealth Electric Company, D.P.U./D.T.E. 97-111 (1998); Cambridge Electric Light Company/Commonwealth Electric Company, D.T.E. 99-90 (2001); Cambridge Electric Light Company/Commonwealth Electric Company, D.T.E. 00-83 (2002); see also, Cambridge Electric Light Company/Commonwealth Electric Company, D.T.E. 01-79 (2001); Cambridge Electric Light Company/Commonwealth Electric Company, D.T.E. 03-118-A (2004).

FURTHER ORDERED: That Commonwealth Electric Company and Cambridge Electric Light Company comply with any and all other directives contained in this Order.

By Order of the Department,

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Paul G. Afonso, Chairman

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James Connelly, Commissioner

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W. Robert Keating, Commissioner

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Judith F. Judson, Commissioner

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Brian Paul Golden, Commissioner

An appeal as to matters of law from any final decision, order or ruling of the Commission may be taken to the Supreme Judicial Court by an aggrieved party in interest by the filing of a written petition praying that the Order of the Commission be modified or set aside in whole or in part. Such petition for appeal shall be filed with the Secretary of the Commission within twenty days after the date of service of the decision, order or ruling of the Commission, or within such further time as the Commission may allow upon request filed prior to the expiration of the twenty days after the date of service of said decision, order or ruling. Within ten days after such petition has been filed, the appealing party shall enter the appeal in the Supreme Judicial Court sitting in Suffolk County by filing a copy thereof with the Clerk of said Court. G.L. c. 25, § 5.